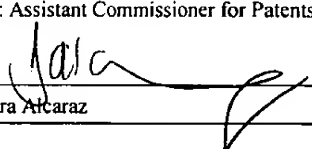


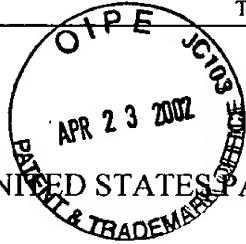
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Tamara Altcaraz



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Thomas M. BAER et al.

Serial No.: 08/984,979

Filing Date: December 4, 1997

For: CONSUMABLE FOR LASER  
CAPTURE MICRODISSECTION

Examiner: Tu Tuan Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 2877

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Response  
J. McInerney  
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is a response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2001 (Paper No. 20), for which a response was due on January 23, 2002, and for which a three month extension of time is also requested to extend the time for response from January 23, 2002 to April 23, 2002.